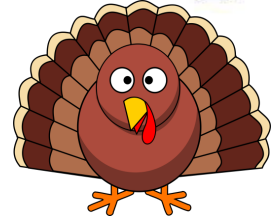


**SUN CITY CENTER****EMERGENCY SQUAD**

The Siren



News and announcements from the Emergency Squad

November 2016

From the Desk of the Chief

Hello volunteers! Thank you all so much for your cooperation with the renovation and relocation. It has been very successful. Mike Bardell put a lot of himself into this project to give us an updated building and a place that our volunteers will be comfortable. It is coming together and it looks great. Also, a shout out to the IT department, especially Richard Grant, for the hours he puts in to make all our computers and phones are working. I believe the two of them are here more than even me. We are having an open house for the public to see on Wednesday, November 2nd at 1000. We expect a large turn-out from the community. Move in is still scheduled for the 3rd, but relies on the phones and computers being switched to the main building. As I am writing this, we are still on schedule. If something gets delayed, we will put the word out and if you show up at the main building and no one else is there, go to the training building.

Hello and welcome back to our snowbirds. I am starting to see you arrive and none too soon. It's great to have you back with the Squad. You have been missed.

There were a few things going on in October. We operated out of the training building for one. Also the State EMS offices had meetings which we attended. Luckily, thanks to Noreen Schramm, we are safe from proposed State changes to the staffing of ambulance crews. The proposal was suspended and there will be no changes anytime soon. Everyone in Tallahassee seems to know who we are and the name, Noreen Schramm. She is a tremendous asset, keeping the Squad keep informed regarding legislative changes and decisions.

In the month of November we have a few holidays, meaning volunteers taking vacations. The community will be putting on a lot of events between now and the end of the year, so look for sign up sheets if you'd like to assist in our public outreach efforts. I know I like to help our community as much as I can. It makes a difference between successful and unsuccessful events. Happy Veterans Day to our veterans and Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Enjoy your holiday, food, and family.

Things to remember. Lately we have had some rough calls to some of the local Assisted Living Facilities. Please remember to be professional. The last thing you want to do is tell the business or staff how to do their job. We will always be polite and follow are standard operating procedures. If you are having a problem you cannot handle, call the captain. Try to get the name of the person who was not professional with you or your crew and we can address the facility directly. If we lose our cool and start being unprofessional or tell them what to do, we are just as bad as the person who was wronging us. "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," is our motto and every resident in these facilities are our neighbors. Another reminder, our service area is from Cortaro Dr. to 301. Inspired Living, Cypress Creek Villages, Cypress Creek Assisted Living, Home Depot, Denny's, Wendy's, Popeye's, Bob Evans, Bealls, Walmart, and the new Wa Wa gas station are not within our service area and we have to be requested by HCFR to go to these places. All these places are "mutual aid" calls. If HCFR requests us to go within our service area(for ex-

**Chief Robert Leonard**

InsideThis Issue

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Crew Meeting Summary by Shirley Bardell

For new volunteers and all of our returning snowbirds, there have been policy and protocol changes in our patient care. Please know that we now have a Medical Policy/Procedure Notebook for our protocols that will be located behind the captain's desk. Only patient care procedures will be in the book, versus all of our Squad policies that are located in the Policy/Protocol Manual.



Below are a few of the changes we are/have been implementing:

Spinal Immobilization – we will follow Hillsborough County practices. This comes from the Hillsborough County Trauma Audit Committee. Please check the new manual for specific procedures.

Stroke Patients – the Stroke alert form has been reactivated by the State. Please complete all sections on suspected Stroke patients and give to either ALS or the hospital. The form can now be found on the back of the Medication sheet.

Fall patients – all fall patients must have a blood sugar done. If the patient is complaining of an injury that from a fall that occurred several days before, a blood sugar is at the discretion of the EMT.

Stable vs Unstable patients – vitals every 5 minutes if the patient is unstable; every 15 minutes if the patient is stable. All transports out of Sun City will have a second set of vitals.

Please note the onset time – in your narrative. It does NOT print out, even though it's listed under the incident tab.

Team Training – CPR training will occur every six weeks and will be split over two consecutive weeks.

New Ambulance Checklists – please note that beginning in November, there will be new checklists and some items in the ambulance will have moved; some will be taken off the EMT checklist and be only on the driver checklist. Items involved are: old lift belts removed; hand and foot restraints moved; normal saline added; kneeling pads moved; air splints moved; padded splints moved; emesis bags moved; Sampson belt on gurney; on-board oxygen – only on driver's checklist; red slider under the head of stretcher.



Van CPR – a new procedure is being developed and training will be done in November. Barry Bogart and Barry McKee will head up this training.

Welcome back, snowbirds! We are happy to see you!

Run Report October 16

Monthly

Ambulance Runs	381
Van Runs	116
B/P	92
Falls	127

Year to Date

Ambulance Runs	4026
Van Runs	1109
B/P	2124
Falls	1463
Heart/cardiac	292

Sick List

Roy Skinner - IT

Ginny Rottman Team 2

John Cortese—Team 3

Julie Holtom—Team 4

Kathy Shaefer—Team 4

Norm Noggle—Team 5

Lynn Kjollesdahl Team 5

Jan Kjollesdahl Team 5

Bucky Devling Team 5

Jim Hoffman Team 5

Dan Johnson Team 5

Garry Gose Team 6

Grace Ryan—Team 8

Tom Rawlings—Team 8

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November Birthdays

Date /Name

2	Judith Buyak-Dargis
2	Sara Washburn
4	Bob Geida
5	Terrie McNamara
8	Jan Kjollesdal
9	Wendy Rudolph
10	Erma Faron
12	Sean Bennett
13	Patricia Riddle
14	Robert Means
15	Sandra Rife
16	Chrissa Carmichael
17	Gerri Roth
18	John Bowker
19	Laura Schwander
20	Ted Adamczyk
21	Walt Bowers
22	Debbie Jasmer
25	Steven Parent
27	Julia Wickersham
28	Matthew O'Brien



Patient Care Reports by Linda Blume

We are now back home. It looks so nice and new. Welcome friends from the North just some friendly reminders for all. Blood sugars on ALL falls per Dr. K. I am noticing a lack of charting in some of the narratives. I am not asking for a book of information but sure need more than 'threw window', 'Code Brown', 'threw up lots', 'don't feel so good.' We are responsible for our charting and if you think people don't read your narrative you are very wrong. I receive requests from Attorneys, Patients, Families, Insurance Companies to name a few. Patients and Families can sue up to 7 years. Do you think you will remember an incident with some of the charting that you have done or will be able to defend it?

Vitals are to be taken every 15 minutes. Head to Toe exams on all FALLS. HIPPA signatures can be signed by friend, spouse, neighbor, Health care Facility staff-it just states the HIPPA form was left.

Tis the season for Colds, Flu, and other illnesses. Protect yourself and your families. Someone is coughing have them wear a mask. A mask can be worn even if they are on Oxygen. Wear gowns and gloves you don't want to take anything home on your clothes.

All RESPONDING ambulance calls (911) are to be running with Lights and Sirens. Leaving the Scene is usually No light or Sirens but is left up to the discretion of the EMT on board.

The only exception is Medical Transports. Medical Transports are from South Bay Hospital to Health Care Facilities. No lights or sirens are used in that case.



Crew Safety – by Mike Albanese

There are many times that backing up the ambulance requires having one of the crew members assist. Please remember if you are assisting the driver in backing up the ambulance:

- Put on your green safety vest first, before you step into the street.
 - Assess traffic, be sure they see you before you step into the road to back up the vehicle. Make eye contact if possible, with the drivers closest to you.
 - Make sure all traffic stops before you signal the driver that it's clear to back up.
 - Make sure the ambulance driver can see you in his mirrors so you don't become a patient!
 - Keep an eye on traffic to make sure they don't try to sneak around you and the ambulance.
 - Study and review our training on hand signals for spotters.
- Most of all – be sure YOU are safe



Emergency Squad's Featured Volunteer – Beverly Shackleford

Over 20 years ago, Beverly Shackleford decided to join the Emergency Squad. Her husband Ron was spending a lot of time there and she felt she needed to check it out. And she's been here ever since, noting a lot of changes along the way. When Beverly first began, she was our Asst. Treasurer, soon becoming Chair of our Bylaws Committee, drafting policy and procedures for the Squad.

After several years, Beverly became a dispatcher for Team 3, working overnight. "This was when the Squad ambulance crews still worked from home,"



Beverly explained, "so I could actually dispatch the crews from my house." Beverly went on to be an instructor for dispatcher training and later Manager of Dispatcher Training. She's seen a lot of changes in the Emergency Squad and the community, during her 20 years of service to Sun City Center.

Chief Leonard stated, "because of her more than 20 years of dedication, Beverly Shackleford is our featured volunteer."

Dick Schneider – Twenty years of service

When something doesn't work at the Squad, Dick Schneider is the man you call. Dick has served the Squad and the community for twenty years by keeping our vans and ambulances on the road and keeping our building working. "Dick knows every bolt in this building, and every piece of our ambulances and vans; where things are and how they work. Without him, we'd have a very hard time," said Chief Leonard.

"I have an excellent crew that comes in every day to fix anything that's broken and help keep us running. It's a great team," said Dick.

Dick has seen us through vehicle changes as well as building changes. When one of the vehicles comes back with a problem, he and his crew do a "head to toe" assessment—or should we say a "bumper to bumper" assessment, making them our vehicle EMTs—Emergency Motor Technicians!



Dates to Remember

All Squad Meeting
Nov. 16th 3-5PM
Chamber room

November 17th, Flu shots

Annual Awards Dinner
February 17 & 18
South Community Hall

November Anniversaries

<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Years</u>
Daniela Bertola	1
Team 1 John Phillips	1
Team 1 Joe Kushnerick	3
Team 1 Naomi Layton	5
Team 1 Robert Mulcahy	15
Team 2 Jim Kreydt	10
Team 4 Eileen Peco	10
Team 4 John Bowker	20
Team 5 Shirley Ziemer	10
Team 5 Charles Ziemer	10
Team 6 Erma Faron	5
Team 7 Dennis Nash	10
Team 8 Valerie Cook	10

Team Captains

Team 1—Bob Mulcahy

Team 2—Peter Gallagher

Team 3—Paul O'Connor

Team 4—Randy Anderson

Team 5—Ed Davis

Team 6—Dick Morrison

Team 7—George McInnes

Team 8—Jim Ryan

Thank you gentlemen for all your work!